MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, AND PARKS
DIVISION OF ENFORCEMENT, WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 451
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT NUMBER W10 3514(I)

TO: The Honorable Eric Clark
Secretary of State
Post Office Box 136
Jackson, MS 39205
AND
ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

The Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, at a meeting in New Albany, Mississippi on April 12, 2007, under authority of Section 25-43-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, made known its intent to adopt the following wildlife management area regulations for the 2007-08 hunting year. This was done under authority of Sections 49-5-13 and 49-7-31, Mississippi Code of 1972.

Be it ordered that Public Notice Number W9 3514 is hereby amended, and the following 2007-08 wildlife management area hunting regulations are adopted.

2007-2008 Regulations for
Black Prairie Wildlife Management Area
Lowndes County

SPECIES	OPENING DATE	CLOSING DATE	COMMENTS
DEER			For deer hunting regulations see DEER HUNTING PERMITS, LEGAL BUCKS, ANTLERLESS DEER REGULATIONS, DEER WEIGHT LIMIT, and DOG RESTRICTIONS in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
Youth Gun - Permit Only	Oct. 6	Oct. 6	Antlerless deer and legal bucks. See DEER HUNTING PERMITS in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
Gun - Permit Only	Oct. 10 Oct. 17 Oct. 24 Oct. 31	Oct. 13 Oct. 20 Oct. 27 Nov. 3	Antlerless deer and legal bucks. See DEER HUNTING PERMITS in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
Gun - Permit Only	Dec. 23	Dec. 29	Legal bucks only. See DEER HUNTING PERMITS in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
TURKEY - Permit Only	Apr. 4 Apr. 11 Apr. 18 Apr. 25	Apr. 6 Apr. 13 Apr. 20 Apr. 27	See TURKEY HUNTING PERMITS in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

SQUIRREL	Oct. 14	Oct. 16	
	Oct. 21	Oct. 23	
	Oct. 29	Oct. 30	
	Nov. 4	Nov. 9	
	Nov. 12	Nov. 17	
	Nov. 19	Nov. 22	
	Dec. 3	Dec. 6	
	Dec. 13	Dec. 15	
	Dec. 17	Dec. 21	
	Jan. 21	Jan. 25	
	Feb. 18	Feb. 28	
RACCOON	Jul. 6	Sep. 28	Friday nights only.
RACCOON, OPOSSUM, & BOBCAT	Oct. 1	Feb. 28	
TRAPPING	Nov. 1	Feb. 28	By special permit. See Area Manager.
RABBIT	Nov. 4	Nov. 9	
	Nov. 12	Nov. 17	
	Dec. 13	Dec. 15	
	Dec. 17	Dec. 21	
	Jan. 21	Jan. 25	
QUAIL - Training Only	Oct. 1	Oct. 5	See BIRD DOG TRAINING in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
	Oct. 7	Oct. 9	
	Oct. 14	Oct. 16	
	Oct. 21	Oct. 23	
	Oct. 29	Oct. 30	
	Nov. 4	Nov. 9	
	Nov. 12	Nov. 17	
	Dec. 13	Dec. 15	
	Dec. 17	Dec. 21	
	Jan. 21	Jan. 25	
	Feb. 18	Feb. 28	
QUAIL - Permit Only	Feb. 9	Feb. 15	See BAG LIMITS and QUAIL HUNTING PERMITS in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.
DOVE	See Federal Regulations.		See DOVE HUNTING in SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

The WMA is closed to hunting during special event dates (see SPECIAL EVENTS section below).

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR BLACK PRAIRIE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA
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WMA USER PERMIT: All persons using this wildlife management area, except those exempt from purchasing an annual hunting or fishing license, must carry on their person an annual statewide Wildlife Management Area User Permit. This permit is required in addition to the daily visitor use permit and any required license.

BAG LIMITS: Same as statewide bag limits EXCEPT:
Quail - party limit of 8 quail per day.
Turkey - A bag limit of one (1) legal gobbler per permitted hunter
Rabbit - party limit of 8 rabbits per day.
Deer - One legal buck, three antlerless deer.

PERMIT STATIONS: All visitors must obtain a DAILY VISITOR USE PERMIT card from a self-service permit station. Parts A and B of this permit must be legibly filled out before using the WMA. Part A of the permit must be deposited in the return box at a permit station before using the WMA. Part B must be kept with the visitor while on the WMA. Permits are invalid if not properly dated or if date has been changed. Before leaving the WMA, visitors must complete the reverse side of Part B of the permit and deposit it in the return box at a permit station. It is the responsibility of the Area Manager and other Agency personnel to have permit cards completed.

DEER HUNTING PERMITS: Deer hunting will be allowed by special permit only. You may apply for youth gun permits online at www.mdwfp.com, or to receive an application send a self-addressed, stamped, letter size envelope to Black Prairie WMA Youth Deer Hunt, MDWFP District 1 Office, 272 CR 995, Tupelo, MS 38804. You may apply for gun hunt permits online at www.mdwfp.com, or to receive an application, send a self-addressed, stamped, letter size envelope to Black Prairie WMA Deer Hunting Permits, MDWFP District 1 Office, 272 CR 995, Tupelo, MS 38804. Completed applications must be received by Sep. 15, 2007 to be eligible for drawing. Hunters who check in an antlerless deer over 65 pounds live weight during their permitted hunt will be issued a permit to harvest one (1) legal buck. This buck permit will be valid for the duration of the permitted hunt and during the legal bucks only deer hunt (Dec. 23 - Dec. 29).

DEER DATA COLLECTION: All deer harvested must be checked at the Area Headquarters before leaving the WMA. If WMA personnel are not available to check the deer, the hunter is responsible for collecting and legibly recording ALL biological data. Instructions and equipment will be provided.

LEGAL BUCKS: Legal bucks are those with an inside spread of at least 12 inches OR one main beam length of at least 15 inches. For hunters less than 16 years of age, a legal buck may be any antlered buck.

ANTLERLESS DEER REGULATIONS: This WMA is NOT open to antlerless deer hunting during statewide either-sex gun days (Dec. 15 - 16).

DEER WEIGHT LIMIT: All antlerless deer must weigh a minimum of 65 pounds live weight to be legal for harvest. The average live weight of an adult doe on this WMA is 115 pounds. Any harvested antlerless deer less than 65 pounds live weight is an illegal deer.

DOG RESTRICTIONS: Deer hunting with dogs is prohibited. Small game hunting with dogs is allowed during any small game season.

TURKEY HUNTING PERMITS: Turkey hunting will be allowed by special permit only. Four 3-day turkey hunts will be held (Apr. 4-6, Apr.11-13, Apr. 18-20 and Apr. 25-27, 2008). A bag limit of one (1) legal gobbler per permitted hunter will be enforced. You may apply online at www.mdwfp.com, or to receive an application, send a self-addressed, stamped, letter size envelope to: Black Prairie WMA Turkey Hunts, MDWFP District 1 Office, 272 Rd. 995, Tupelo, MS 38804-8294. Applications will be accepted until February 15, 2008. Hunters who were successfully drawn to hunt will be notified by mail.

LEGAL WEAPONS: Only centerfire rifles, shotguns with slugs, primitive weapons, and centerfire handguns may be used for deer hunting. Legal weapons for small game hunting (excluding waterfowl) during daylight hours are shotguns using #2 shot or smaller, rifles or handguns no larger than .22 rimfire magnum, muzzleloading rifles of.40 caliber or smaller, and archery equipment using arrows with points other than broadheads. When hunting with a handgun, no other gun may be in possession.

SPECIAL EVENTS: Hunting dog field trails and other special events will be allowed by special use permit only. These permits may be obtained from the MDWFP, see Area Manager for additional information. Special events will be restricted to the following dates: Sep. 15-16, Oct. 28, Nov. 10-11, Nov. 18, Nov. 23-Dec. 2, Dec. 7-Dec. 12, Dec. 16, Dec. 22, Dec. 30-Jan. 20, Jan. 26, Jan. 28-Feb. 8, Feb. 17, Mar. 1-2 and Mar. 7-10. The WMA is closed to hunting during special event dates. Anyone participating in permitted special events must obey conduct rules as designated and posted by club or group permitted to hold event.

BIRD DOG TRAINING: During bird dog training dates, a person may not use area facilities more than 4 consecutive days.

QUAIL HUNTING PERMITS: Quail hunting from Feb. 9-15 is allowed by special permit only. You may apply online at www.mdwfp.com, or to receive an application, send a self-addressed, stamped, letter size envelope to Black Prairie WMA Quail Hunting Permits, MDWFP District 1 Office, 272 CR 995, Tupelo, MS 38804. Only one application per hunter will be accepted. Completed applications must be received by Jan. 15, 2008 to be eligible for drawing. Hunters who are selected will be notified by mail.

DOVE HUNTING: A youth dove hunt will be held on a designated field Sep. 1, 2007, beginning at 1:00 pm. Dove hunting will be allowed on designated fields after the Sep. 1 youth hunt, beginning 12:00 noon, on Wednesdays and Saturdays only.

OFF-ROAD MOTORIZED VEHICLES/ATVs: Off-road motorized vehicles/ATVs are allowed on designated roads or trails for hunting and fishing access only. Off-road use of ORVs/ATVs is allowed for retrieval of harvested deer. No loaded weapon may be in possession when retrieving harvested game.

HORSES: During WMA deer seasons, horseback riding is restricted to roads open to motorized vehicles. Raccoon hunting from horses is allowed on entire area during nighttime hours.

CAMPING: No camping allowed.

FISHING: Fishing will be permitted on area ponds. Fishing is subject to special regulations posted at each pond.

BEARS: Black bears may occur on this WMA. They are federally protected as a threatened subspecies. Hunting or disturbing bears is prohibited. Please report any bear sightings on your daily visitor use permit.

Anyone wishing to comment on the above proposed action may do so in writing to the Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, P. O. Box 451, Jackson, MS 39205, no later than May 14, 2007.

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY: _____
William C. Deviney, Chairman

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY: _____
Sam Polles, Ph.D., Executive Director